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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NT Education Minister miscalculates funding for Indigenous youth festival

Croc Festival®, a proven educational and aspirational programme for Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth in remote and rural Australia, has not received $600,000 from the Australian Government to stage the event in Alice Springs, as incorrectly claimed by Paul Henderson, Education Minister for the Northern Territory.

“The facts are clear: The Northern Territory Government has provided no funding. The Alice Springs Town Council has provided no funding. And the Australian Government has advised it is unable to provide additional funding for the additional festival planned for Alice Springs,’ said Peter Sjoquist, Executive Producer of Croc Festival®.

‘With no financial support from any of the three levels of Government, Indigenous Festivals of Australia does not have the financial resources to stage the event this year.’

Now in its tenth year, Croc Festival® has been hosting three-day festivals across Australia since 1998 and in the Northern Territory since 2000. It has successfully motivated and inspired Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth to stay at school, attend classes more regularly, work towards future life goals, and lead fit and healthy lifestyles.

This year Croc Festival® is hoping to attract 20,000 students from 450 schools nationwide.

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Notes to editor

Croc Festival® is produced by Indigenous Festivals of Australia Ltd, a non-profit organisation. It is part of the Global Rock Challenge which organises events around the world to promote positive outcomes and health lives for young people.

2007 itinerary

QLD: Thursday Island – July 17-19
WA: Derby – August 7-9
WA: Mullewa – August 14-16
NT: Alice Springs – August 28-30 CANCELLED
SA: Port Augusta – September 4-6
NSW: Kempsey – September 18-20
NSW: Dubbo – September 25-27
VIC: Shepparton – October 16-18

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